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SUBJECT <b>Letter: Meeting with Ambassador</b>					
INFO	ACTION	COMMENT	CONCURRENCE	PREPARE REPLY	RECOMMENDATION
ROUTING	DATE	INITIALS	REMARKS		
1/operations	4/1	[initials]			
2 D/FBIS	4/1	[initials]			
3 D/FBIS	4/24	[initials]			
4 C/FBS	5/24	[initials]			
5 C/FD	4/2	[initials]			
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MBK-0035  
15 December

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[redacted]  
Chief, Operations Group  
FBIS Headquarters

Dear Jerry:

On Friday, 11 December, I had a pleasant 45-minute meeting with our new ambassador, John Gunther Dean. Although the purpose of the meeting was to obtain his concurrence in the assignment of [redacted] as chief, Bangkok Bureau, the conversation extended to many topics, some of which are pertinent to FBIS plans and thus of interest to FBIS management.

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As expected, the ambassador's concurrence in [redacted] assignment was nothing less than automatic. As we reported in our November Monthly Report, the ambassador is a long-time fan of FBIS and still reads as much of our file as time allows. Thus, there is every reason to believe that the Embassy-bureau relationship will continue to be as cordial and cooperative as it was during the tour of the previous ambassador.

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I briefed Ambassador Dean in general terms on FBIS' expanding operations, noting in particular that Bangkok would be one of the bureaus soon to be outfitted with the necessary equipment. He expressed enthusiasm in the planned project and said that he had no problem with the installation [redacted] ✓

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[redacted] I noted that, based on Okinawa Bureau's experience, we expected that our reception of many stations would improve dramatically and that other stations currently unmonitorable more than likely would be added to our coverage, thus requiring additional manpower. He understood fully and said that as long as FBIS acquired MODE authority in Washington for a staff increase, the addition of non-staff personnel here was no concern of his. As for additional staffers, he did caution me that DCM Stapleton Roy (whom you met at our party in October) would filter those requests more carefully when the time for a staff increase is at hand. As I interpreted his remarks, provided we have MODE authority and can sell Roy on the proposal, the ambassador would not stand in the way of a staff increase. ✓

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Incidentally, Roy will be visiting the bureau for a briefing in "the next month or two," at which time I'll bounce the idea off him. Judging from previous talks with him, I anticipate no genuine opposition. Obviously, I'll talk in ballpark figures, 1-2 staffers and 5-6 non-staffers at a maximum. (Our FY-1984 Program takes a first cut at such projections, but obviously the actual numbers will be determined later after considerable thought and more experience.)

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[REDACTED]

The only other perhaps useful observation that I have from the meeting is that the ambassador obviously has a great deal of trust in his Mission staff. He has given every indication in the two months he's been here that he will leave the business of running the Mission to the responsible officers, while he sees his main role as one of representation.

As he has voiced at every opportunity, the ambassador was effusive in his praise of the FBIS product. He mentioned specifically this bureau's file from [REDACTED], the Middle East roundup which served him well in Lebanon, and the FBIS TRENDS. In sum, our new ambassador is an appreciative consumer of FBIS and appears to be a man in whom FBIS can rely on if future plans require his support.

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Sincerely,

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[REDACTED]

Chief, Bangkok Bureau, FBIS

WRS:mk